

SECRET

SX-4281

Subject: A trip to the USSR in July/Aug 1964

Source: *SUBTELNY, Oksana of 5123 N. Marvine St., Philadelphia, Pa
Tel. DA 4-7543

Date: 3 Sep 1964

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1. Source studied in Vienna, Austria in 1963-64 (modern languages, major in German). She is American citizen, of Ukrainian descent, aged 22.

From 17 July 1964 to 3 Aug 1964 Source was on a trip to the Soviet Union with a group of tourists from Vienna. The trip was organized by the "Austrian Soviet Friendship Society". There were 25 students in the group, mostly German and Austrians. The trip costs - \$ 200.--. Source was the only Ukrainian American on this trip. Their itinerary: Kiev - 4 days

Sochi - 6 days

Moscow - 4 days

Kiev - 2 hours

The group left Vienna by airplane (Aeroflot) and in the USSR travelled also by plane.

2. Source was interviewed by R.K. on 2 Sep 1964. Her observations added already nothing new to the known picture of the situation in the USSR. Nevertheless, some of the points are mentioned in part II.

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AUG 13 1965

DOC. MICRO. SER.

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ABSTRACT		

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1. In Kiev Source met her aunt from Lvov . The aunt refused to talk in the hotel and later on in the street explained to Source that though the situation much relaxed after Stalin's death, one has still to be very careful. She also pointed out to Source that they were surveilled in the streets.

The aunt asked Source what she thought about Senator Goldwater and whether he will be elected. When Source made some not very friendly remarks about the Senator, the aunt was very surprised and said, " But Oksano, he wants to free Ukraine. How can you talk about him like that".

2. In Kiev and Sochi the black market is thriving. Source's group was often surrounded by all kinds of people who were ready to buy everything from them. Source's aunt confirmed that without black market which actually had been "legalized" the life would be even worse than it was now. Source noticed herself that in Kiev, for instance, anything and everything could be obtained at the market provided one had enough money.

3. In Kiev there was a shortage of sugar and it had to be rationed . Vegetables were also scarce, almost unobtainable. Fresh food can be bought early at the market but one has to get up very early in the morning because otherwise it is sold out. Meat was also lacking.

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4. In Kiev and Moscow Source visited cafes for youth. It was always very crowded and noisy. Usually a band was playing American jazz and couples were dancing Western dances. In Sochi young people danced twist. All were very much interested in American way of life. Some of them had a completely distorted picture of the USA; thus, one student in Sochi asked Source how people could live in a country where there are only gangsters, crime ,and civil rights demonstrations.

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SOVIET STUDENT IN VIENNA 1963-64

The Soviet student in Vienna during the period 1963 - 64 was contacted by Oksana Subtelna, a student in Vienna at the time.

✓ Name: Nikolai Savyn []

✓ Member of the Communist party.

Residence: Moscow

Born : Ukraine, but does not speak Russian Ukrainian

Description: Height 5'6"-5'7"

weight 140-150 lbs.

hair dark, slightly bald on top.

dark complexion

no distinguishing characteristics

Married has no children, attends Moscow University.

The subject was studying law in Vienna, and at that time was a candidate for a doctorate. 1963-1964

TOPICS

Ukrainian emmigration

The subject was very surprised that S. spoke Ukrainian so well. He asked her where she learned to speak it, S. said that in America there are Ukrainian schools, and Ukrainian youth organizations. He questioned her about these organizations, about Ukrainian political groups, youth groups,

Ukrainian nationalism

The subject said that there is no nationalism in Ukraine, and that there is no need for it.

Russification.

Subject said that there is a great deal of assimilation with Russian customs, and with the Russian language. But the subject found nothing wrong with this.

On the whole the subject seemed very pleasant and interesting to talk to. S. said that he was well liked, and had many friends.

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